

Planning Update

South Coast Resource Management Plan Revision

Draft Resource Management Plan Revision Ready for Public Review

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and our cooperating agency partners have worked together to develop a revised Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the South Coast Planning Area. The Draft RMP is now ready for public review and comment. This updated plan will guide management and stewardship of public lands in the coastal region of Southern California for many years to come.

The Draft RMP/EIS will be available for a formal 90-day public comment period after the Notice of Availability is published in the Federal Register. The BLM will use these comments to prepare the Proposed RMP/Final EIS (PRMP/FEIS). The PRMP/FEIS will be available for a 30-day protest period. After any protests are resolved, a Record of Decision (ROD) and Final Resource Management Plan will be published.

Public Participation

The BLM held public scoping meetings to gather public comment on the proposed RMP revision in San Diego, Riverside, and Los Angeles Counties in 2007. A total of 75 people attended the meetings. The BLM received 53 comments by letter, fax, or e-mail. The complete Report of Scoping is included in the Draft RMP Revision and is on our website. The BLM considered comments in the development of the Draft RMP Revision (DRMP). The DRMP includes four alternatives, including an agency preferred alternative.

Draft RMP Revision and Draft Environmental Impact Statement

The Draft RMP provides guidance for the management of approximately 300,000 acres of BLM administered public lands in portions of San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Los Angeles Counties. The Draft RMP also includes a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) which analyzes the four alternatives in the DRMP. Actions required under BLM policy and planning requirements include land use allocations and designations of areas requiring special management such as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), recreation management areas, off-highway vehicle (OHV) management areas, utility corridors, grazing allotments, wildlife management areas, and land disposal categories.

The alternatives include the following:

Alternative A describes the continuation of the present management. Alternative A provides an opportunity to compare the current management with various management alternatives proposed for the future (Alternatives B, C, and D). Alternative A will serve as a baseline for most resources and land use allocations.

Alternative B generally places emphasis on preservation of the Planning Area's natural and cultural resources through partnerships with local governments and strict implementation of regional habitat conservation plans. It proposes a combination of natural processes and active management techniques and provides access through a limited transportation network.

Alternative C provides for enhanced recreational access, including motorized use, and opportunities for additional resource use and development such as grazing, renewable energy, transportation and utility rights-of-way (ROWs), sand and gravel production, and communication facilities.

Alternative D represents a combination from Alternatives A, B, and C for management of each resource and resource use, and provides for a balance between authorized resource use and the protection and long-term sustainability of sensitive resources.



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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Request copy of the Draft RMP/Draft EIS

The BLM will release the Draft RMP and Draft EIS on CD-ROM for public review. Due to the cost of printing and mailing, the BLM will make a limited number of copies available. If you would like a copy of the plan on CD-ROM, please contact us by close of business Friday, July 29, 2011 in order to have a copy mailed to you. You may call or write to the BLM, Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office address below, fax the request to (760) 833-7199, or send an e-mail request to: capsscrmp@ca.blm.gov

The Draft RMP/EIS will also be available on-line or at one of the following locations for your review.

BLM Palm Springs-South Coast website: www.blm.gov/ca/palmsprings

BLM Palm Springs-South
Coast Field Office
1201 Bird Center Drive
Palm Springs, CA 92262
(760) 833-7100

BLM California Desert District
22835 Calle San Juan de Los
Lagos
Moreno Valley, CA 92553
(951) 697-5200

BLM California State Office
2800 Cottage Way, Suite
W1623
Sacramento, CA 95825
(916) 978-4400

Public Libraries:

Los Angeles County Public Library
Canyon Country Branch
Valencia Branch
Newhall Branch
Riverside County Public Library
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Sun City Branch
Temecula Branch
Beaumont District Library
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Hemet Public Library
Riverside Public Library

San Jacinto Public Library
San Bernardino County Public Library
Highland Branch
Mentone Branch
San Bernardino Public Library
A.K. Smiley Public Library, Redlands
San Diego County Public Library
El Cajon Regional Center
La Mesa Regional Center
Vista Regional Center
Escondido Public Library
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